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Fuel assembly for a pressurised water nuclear reactor containing plutonium-free enriched uranium.

ABSTRACT

This fuel assembly (3) for a pressurised water nuclear reactor comprises fuel rods which are arranged at the nodes of a substantially regular network which has a polygonal outer contour, the fuel rods containing uranium which is enriched in isotope 235 and not containing any plutonium before the assembly is used in a reactor.

The rods are distributed in at least:

- a first central group which is constituted by fuel rods which have a first level of nuclear reactivity, and - an outer peripheral layer (13) of fuel rods which have a level/levels of nuclear reactivity which is/are strictly less than the first level of reactivity.

Figure 2.